

Rockland Council on Aging
317 Plain St Rockland, Ma.
Secretaries Report
Wednesday November 12, 2014

With a quorum present Chairperson Beverly Ladner called the meeting to order at 9:35.

Roll Call: Audrey Ryan, Lorraine Ahern, Peter Stonis, Jean Callahan Chris Kelly, Lu Crowley, Cynda Childs, Jack Conway and alternate John Rogers. Excused: Eleanor Cole. Absent: Patti Penny.

Old Colony Elder Services: Agnes Smith was absent – no report

Old Colony Planning Council: Rita Howes reported that there is a new “Modification Loan Program for low income and disabled persons. This is not a program for renovations, new windows or roofs. It is a program to assist in medically needed adaptations so that individuals can remain at home. An example might be a handicap shower or bathroom. Please contact Amy Allen at 508-202-5919 for questions and/or an application. This program is administered by South Middlesex Opportunity Council. There is additional information on that website: www.smoc.org. **A motion was made to accept the report as read by Audrey Ryan and 2nd by Jean Callahan.**

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting / Secretaries Report: A motion was made by Cynda Childs to accept the report as read, seconded by Lorraine Ahern and the vote was unanimous.

Financial Report: A motion was made by Audrey Ryan to accept the report as read, seconded by Jack Conway; the vote was unanimous. Current balance: \$49,012.18.

- The Director reported that a new line item will be added to the Financial Report next month. “Utilities will be added to the financial report and charges for utilities such as gas, comcast etc. will be deducted from that line item. Currently there is no charge for electricity due to the Solar Panel on Beech St. The Utility Account started with a balance of \$8,000.00 and currently has a balance of \$6,706.14.

Warrant Report: The Bill Warrant was duly signed. Motion by Lorraine Ahern and 2nd by Chris Kelly to accept report.

Outreach Report: A motion was made by Beverly Ladner to accept the report as presented and seconded by Lu Crowley; the vote was unanimous. It was a full house on November 5, 2014 when Officials from Shine offered a presentation on how changes may affect Medicare Beneficiaries. Many questions were answered by the officials. A ceremony was held to honor veterans and all veterans were presented an “American Flag Pin” and were thanked for their service.

- Fuel Assistance application are now being accepted.
- Thanksgiving baskets are available from Possibilities Ministries for those eligible.
- Meals on Wheels volunteers are desperately needed – the request is going to be aired on the Rockland Cable Station.

- Scott Ciosek and Nancy Curtis, RN from Beacon Hospice are coming to the senior center on December 2, 2014 to discuss starting a “Bereavement Group” – possibly after the start of the New Year.
- The center is looking for 50 seniors to participate in a new intergenerational program with the Memorial Park 4th grade class. The seniors and the students would be paired and become “Pen Pals”.

Director’s Report: The motion was made by Audrey Ryan to accept the report as presented, seconded by Cynda Childs.

- Director Peggy welcomed back COA member Lu Crowley who had been sick.
- A new TV Monitor has been installed in the receptionist area which displays daily schedules and activities.
- The Director reported that the center has received a very generous donation of \$3,500.00 from the Eagle Club of Rockland for the Meals on Wheels Program.
- The K of C ladies auxiliary donated \$500.00
- The new defibulator has been installed in the receptionist area. The fire department recommend that proper signage be placed above the defibulator. The fire department also commented that they are very pleased that many additional safety measures have been added to the center above and beyond what it required. John Rogers reported that new handicap bars have been purchased for all toilet areas, not just the required ones for the handicap stalls. Handicap doors/handles have been completed on all exit doors. The movie projector and the shades are almost complete.
- November 17, 2014 the Golden Ages will have their annual bazaar from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M. The Men’s Club will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers for the event.

Comments: The COA is having their annual Christmas Tea on Friday December 5, 2014 @ 1:00 P.M. It was agreed that this year there will be sandwiches served as well as a large variety of desserts. The number of attendees will be limited to 75-80.

As there was no further business to come before the Council a motion was made by Audrey Ryan and 2nd by Jean Callahan to adjourn at 10:35 AM, the vote was unanimous.

Next meeting December 10, 2014 @ 9:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Ahern
Secretary COA
November 12, 2014